

WIND CRITERIA

■ ***HIGH WIND WARNING***

When **non-localized** winds reach or are forecast to reach the following speeds for one hour or more. (For events lasting less than one hour, use only the NOWCAST)

Coastal and Valley zones

Sustained winds equal to or greater than 40 mph and/or frequent gusts equal to or greater than 58 mph.

Desert zones and Mountain zones below 7,000 ft.

Sustained winds equal to or greater than 45 mph and /or frequent gusts to or greater than 58 mph.

Mountain zones 7,000ft. Or above

Sustained winds equal to or greater than 55 mph and/or frequent gusts equal to or greater than 75 mph.

WIND CRITERIA

■ ***HIGH WIND WATCH***

When the potential exists for **non-localized** winds to reach the following speeds for one hour or more during the next 12 to 36 hours. For events forecast to occur within the next 12 hours a high wind warning.

Coastal and Valley zones

Sustained winds equal to or greater than 40 mph and/or frequent gusts equal to or greater than 58 mph.

Desert zones and Mountain zones below 7,000 ft.

Sustained winds equal to or greater than 45 mph and/or frequent gusts equal to or greater than 58 mph.

Mountain zones 7,000 ft or above

Sustained winds equal to or greater than 55 mph and/or frequent gusts equal to or greater than 75 mph.

WIND CRITERIA

■ ***WIND ADVISORY***

When **non-localized** winds reach or are forecast to reach the following speeds for one hour or more. (For events lasting less than one hour use the NOWCAST)

Coastal and Valley zones

Sustained winds equal to or greater than 30 mph and/or frequent gusts equal to or greater than 35 mph.

Desert zones and Mountain zones below 7,000 ft.

Sustained winds equal to or greater than 35 mph and/or frequent gusts equal to or greater than 45 mph.

Mountain zones 7,000 ft. or above

Sustained winds equal to or greater than 45 mph and/or frequent gusts equal to or greater than 55 mph.

SEVERE WEATHER CRITERIA

*Public Service may be the first to get a report of **SEVERE WEATHER**
...report to the **LEAD FORECASTER IMMEDIATELY!!***

TORNADO or WATER SPOUT (for marine)

If a tornado sighting is reported or radar data suggests a tornado is occurring or formation is likely...

- Damaging winds from a ROTATING CLOUD in contact with the ground or water
- FUNNEL or “SPIRALING” DEBRIS CLOUD
- Land-Falling WATER SPOUT

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM

If a qualified observer reports or radar indicates a thunderstorm is producing...

Large Hail > 3/4" [or Damaging Hail]

Damaging Winds > 50 kt [58 mph]

WINTER WEATHER CRITERIA

HEAVY SNOW WARNING:

If the following snowfall rates are imminent, occurring or highly probable:

Mountain zones above 7,000 ft.

12" in 12 hours or 18" in 24 hours

Mountain zones below 7,000 ft.

8" in 12 hours or 12" in 24 hours

All other zones:

4" in 12 hours or 6" in 24 hours

BLIZZARD WARNING:

When a combination of sustained winds 35 mph or greater and visibilities of a 1/4 mile or less in snow and blowing snow are forecast to occur for at least 3 hours



WINTER WEATHER CRITERIA

WINTER STORM WARNING

When Winter Storm criteria are occurring or are very likely to occur in the first period.

- Any accumulation of freezing rain.
- Any combination of a heavy snow warning, high wind warning, or wind chill warning...or one of these occurring with...
- Any freezing precipitation.
- A snow advisory, wind advisory, sleet, or visibilities of ½ mile or less in blowing snow, or a combination thereof.



WINTER WEATHER CRITERIA

WINTER STORM WATCH

If conditions are favorable for any of the below events to develop in the second or third period.

- Winter Storm conditions
- Blizzard conditions
- Heavy Snow
- Wind chills less than -20 degrees

WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY

When Winter Weather Advisory criteria are occurring or are likely to occur within the first period.

- Any sleet, freezing drizzle, or visibilities of ½ mile or less in blowing snow.
 - Any of these with either a snow advisory or wind advisory.*
- A combination of a snow advisory and wind advisory.

WIND CHILL & FREEZE CRITERIA

WIND CHILL WARNING

If wind chill values of -20 degrees F or less are imminent, occurring or highly probable.

FREEZE WARNING

Zones 34,35,36,37,38 ,59 and 88: The first and second time the surface temperature is forecast to reach or fall below 28 degrees F for two or more consecutive hours, or anytime between March 1st and Nov. 15th.

Zones 51,52,53 and 54: Freeze warnings are not issued for the mountain zones.

All other zones: anytime the surface temperature is forecast to reach or fall below 28 degrees F for two
or more consecutive hours.

